

Claims

1. A process for identifying, not later than a selected time after at least one of a completed sale or a proposed announced sale of at least one private business, any shareholder of the at least one private business determined to be at least potentially receiving compensation resultant from the sale of the at least one private business which exceeds a threshold shareholder compensation value comprising:

determining from at least one information source providing information about sales of businesses over a period of time the completed sale or the proposed announced sale of the private business which has at least a sale value exceeding a threshold business sale value; and

determining, not later than the selected time, from at least one information source pertaining to the at least one private business, an identification of at least one shareholder of the at least one private business who at least potentially will receive from the sale of the at least one private business compensation exceeding the threshold shareholder compensation value.

2. A process in accordance with claim 1 wherein:

the selected time is after the announced proposed sale of the at least one private business.

3. A process in accordance with claim 1 wherein:

the selected time is after the completed sale of the at least one private business.

4. A process in accordance with claim 1 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is determined from publicly reported transaction terms of the completed sale of the at least one private business.

5. A process in accordance with claim 1 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is determined from publicly reported transaction terms of the proposed announced sale of the at least one private business.

6. A process in accordance with claim 2 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is determined from publicly reported transaction terms of the completed sale of the at least one private business.

7. A process in accordance with claim 2 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is determined from publicly reported transaction terms of the proposed announced sale of the at least one private business.

8. A process in accordance with claim 3 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is determined from publicly reported transaction terms of the completed sale of the at least one private business.

9. A process in accordance with claim 3 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is determined from publicly reported transaction terms of the proposed announced sale of the at least one private business.

10. A process in accordance with claim 1 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is estimated from data obtained from at least one source pertaining to other private businesses or national government filings.

11. A process in accordance with claim 2 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is estimated from data obtained from at least one source pertaining to other private businesses or national government filings.

12. A process in accordance with claim 3 wherein:

the sale value exceeding the threshold business sale value is estimated from data obtained from at least one source pertaining to other private businesses or national government filings.

13. A process in accordance with claim 10 wherein:

the at least one source pertaining to the other private businesses stores data related to a sale value of other businesses representative of the sale value of the at least one private business from which the sale value is extrapolated.

14. A process in accordance with claim 11 wherein:

the at least one source pertaining to the other private businesses stores data related to a sale value of other businesses representative of the sale value of the at least one private business from which the sale value is extrapolated.

15. A process in accordance with claim 12 wherein:

the at least one source pertaining to the other private businesses stores data related to a sale value of other businesses representative of the sale value of the at least one private business from which the sale value is extrapolated.

16. A process in accordance with claim 1 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources.

17. A process in accordance with claim 2 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources.

18. A process in accordance with claim 3 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources

19. A process in accordance with claim 4 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources

20. A process in accordance with claim 10 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources

21. A process in accordance with claim 11 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources

22. A process in accordance with claim 12 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources

23. A process in accordance with claim 13 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder includes information useful for contacting the at least one shareholder and is obtained from at least one of a website of the private company, database information or other information sources

24. A process in accordance with any one of claims 1-23 wherein:

(a) determining of the announced sale is from review of at least one of daily research of announced sales of businesses, at least one database providing information on announced sales of businesses, announcements from the Federal Trade Commission of Transactions Granted Early Termination resultant from antitrust filing and announcements and news releases; and

(b) all sales of public businesses obtained from step (a) are eliminated to provide information about only private businesses sold from which the at least one private business and an acquiror thereof is identified.

25. A process in accordance with claims 1-23 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder is verified by at least one of a survey addressed to the at least one shareholder after the sale of the at least one private business or from other sources having information familiar with the transaction; and

information in a database pertaining to the sale of the at least one private business is updated.

26. A process in accordance with claim 25 wherein:

the information pertaining to the sale of the at least one business which is updated involves at least potentially received compensation that at least one shareholder of the at least one private business will receive.

27. A process in accordance with claim 1-23 wherein:

progress of a sale of the at least one private business is tracked from at least one information source from a time that the announcement of sale of the private business is identified until after closing of the sale; and

a valuation of at least the potentially received compensation that the at least one shareholder of the at least one private business will receive is updated as the progress of a sale of the private business as tracked and is stored in a database.

28. A process in accordance with any one of claims 1-5, 10, 13 and 16 wherein:

the identification of the at least one shareholder is stored in a database storing information about shareholders of private businesses and is processed to provide information about the at least one shareholder which is provided to businesses marketing products and/or services to persons having received compensation exceeding threshold value shareholder compensation.

29. A process in accordance with any one of claims 10-13 wherein:

the governmental filings are with the SEC.

30. A process in accordance with any one of claims 16-23 wherein:

publicly available personal information is gathered and stored in a database about the at least one shareholder which is of interest to businesses marketing products and/or services.